

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are canceled. New claims 16-27 are presented for consideration in this continuation application.

The specification is amended to make reference to the parentage.

Support for new claims 16-27 is found in the specification and the original claims. The definition of the compound of component a) in new claims 16-18 and 20-23 is found in original claim 1. The definition of the compound of component a) in new claims 19 and 24-27 is found in original claim 2.

Support for the compound of component e) is found in the specification, top of page 9.

The weight ratios specified in new claims 16-18 find support in the specification, page 20, fourth paragraph and in the working Examples.

New claims 20-23 and 24-27 correspond to original claims 11-14 respectively.

No new matter is added as a result of the present amendments.

Similar claims to the present ones are found allowable in the parent application, No. 09/275,859 in a Notice of Allowance dated Dec. 4, 2001. The present claims differ in the definition of the compound of component e).

Components a) and e) represent the commercial hindered amine stabilizers TINUVIN 622 and UVASORB HA 88 respectively, both specifically named for example on page 9 of the specification. The specific TINUVIN 622/UVASORB HA 88 mixture is disclosed on page 14 of the specification.

There is direct overlap of the present claims with those of Raspanti, U.S. Pat. No. 5,658,973. Raspanti '973 contains claims to bi-component hindered amine light stabilizer mixtures as does the present application. Raspanti's claims are aimed at combinations of compounds of formula (I) and a compound selected from formula (IV), (V), (VI) or (VII).

The compound of present component a) of claim 16 has direct overlap with the compound of formula (V) of claim 1 of Raspanti '973 (top col. 11). The specification of Raspanti '973 offers a specific example of a compound of formula V, which is compound 4, lines 45-50 on col. 6. This specific compound has direct overlap with the compound of present component a) of instant claim 19. The compound of present component a) of claim 19 and the compound of formula V of Raspanti '973 (and compound 4) each describe TINUVIN 622.

The compound of present component e) falls within the compounds defined by formula (I) of Raspanti '973. Dependent claim 4 of Raspanti '973 defines a more narrow definition of the compound of formula (I), see formula (X) therein. The compound of present component e) has direct overlap with the compound of formula (X) of Raspanti '973. The specification of Raspanti '973 offers a specific compound of formula (I), see compound 2 on col. 5 therein. Compound 2 of Raspanti '973 has direct overlap with the compound of present component e). The compound of present component e) and of formula (X) of Raspanti '973 (and compound 2) each describe the commercial product UVASORB HA 88.

The present continuation application is filed with the intention of entering into an interference with Raspanti '973.

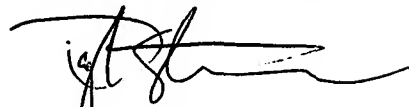
Applicant notes that Raspanti '973 has a U.S. filing date of July 26, 1995. The first U.S. filing that the present application has benefit of is Jan. 18, 1996. Applicant acknowledges therefore that the present claims face a 35 USC 102(e) rejection.

The priority document for the present application, European patent application No. 95810042.2, was filed Jan. 23, 1995. A certified English translation of this document was submitted in the parent application. The combination of TINUVIN 622 and UVASORB HA 88 is disclosed in the priority document. However, the specific structure of component e) of the present claims is not present in the priority document. Applicant will provide proof in due course that UVASORB HA 88 available commercially at the time of filing of the EP priority document is defined by the structure of present component e).

Applicant submits that the present claims will be in condition for allowance upon submission of this proof. Upon being found allowable, the PTO is respectfully requested to declare an interference between the present application and Raspanti '973.

Early consideration of the present claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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